

Its just the start of what has happened with TV. If you can remember back ... they touted cable as being "commercial-free television" Well we all know what happened there or do we ??? We are, as a nation, manipulated everyday ... its time for theses practices to stop.

—Melody Moon, Coral Springs, FL

The internet should be the same for everyone. We pay enough , we don't need to be charged extra. These providers have enough. This Greediness has to stop. Everyone should have the opportunity to have the same speed, but these companies still charge extra for higher speeds. This rampant discrimination online has to STOP!! To me it seems that this is just about one thing, more MONEY in the PROVIDERS POCKET!!!!

—Pamela Jean Pluta, Cihcago, IL

There is a cancer of corporatism that has rotted America's soul. The Internet should be one place where the citizenry can discuss/learn about issues irregardless of their wealth. It should be regulated as a public utility since it has replaced traditional media as the the forum for exchange of ideas. We should adopt European conceptions of the Internet as a vital public necessity and limit the capacity of near-monopolies like Comcast to extort the public. Our Internet speeds are a joke compared to many developed countries because while they have allowed businesses to make profits they have also ensured actual competition between carriers. Allowing variable transmission speeds according to ability to pay is a pernicious assault on democracy. I wonder why it is that an administration which initially espoused a policy of no lobbyists in the White House appointed one to head a regulatory agency.

—David Page, San Francisco, CA

Net Neutrality is Freedom of Information. Let it be.

—Judy Morgan-Kinsell, Nacogdoches, TX

Most people have come to rely on the internet as a primary source for communication and information. It is now an integral part of our daily lives. Every citizen should have equal access to this utility. In a democracy, corporations should not take precedence over citizens.

—Chris Sandow, LaFayette, GA

As a librarian and educator, I worry that changing net neutrality would have an immediate adverse impact on education and public libraries. For many students and adults, their school and public libraries are their access to the internet. Changing net neutrality will increase the digital divide. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Jane Glass, Portland, ME

Reclassify ISPs as common carriers. This is the ONLY way to protect real Net Neutrality. Represent THE PEOPLE ... NOT selfish, greedy, tax dodging, transnational telecom monopolies ... or do you even really care about what THE PEOPLE have to say anymore ... since we don't include cash bribes to buy your shameless corporatocracy?

—Barry Anderson, Kill Devil Hills, NC

Freedom of speech should not be For Sale. We are tired of Washington being in the pocket of the 1%, and it is time for serious change. Stop putting corporate employees in charge of making the laws that regulate business. Give the People back their voice, or we may have to take it back.

—Frances Wade, Bigfork, MT

Please stop playing Monopoly and acknowledge that people are more important than corporations. And shame on President Obama for putting a fox in charge of the hen house.

—Jim Ahearn, Clearwater, FL

A strong and free country requires a strong and free internet.

—Edwina White, Sacramento, CA

Our local newspaper is owned by the same corporation as my cable company (WEHCO). As you might expect, with no competition, service is abominable. The op-ed page has turned into a church bulletin and philosophical journal dealing with the sole question of angel dancing on pinheads written by the same, and there are more religious channels than legitimate news channels. To find reliable news I rely on the Internet to find Al Jazeera America which the cable company refuses to carry. I do not get consistent reliable speeds now, please do not make it worse.
—Stephen O. Manning, Hot Springs National Park, AR

My telephone and television service have almost entirely transitioned to being delivered to my home and business over the Internet. I am not alone in this being the primary method of accessing news and information as well as voice telephony service. Therefore, the broadband connection to the Internet must be classified as a Title II common carrier service. To do anything less is merely behaving as a lapdog for the cable and telecom industries rather than behaving as a watchdog for the American people's interests.
—Randy Hall, Santa Rosa, CA

It is our right as American citizens
—Judith Ohrt, Napa, CA

Net Neutrality is essential for the health of our nation. Rampant discrimination benefits few and harms our country. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers because they are.
—Barbara Gabriel, chapel hill, NC

ATTN:FCC To Whom it may concern, It is vital to preserve net neutrality. It is my strong opinion that the two tiered system, for bandwidth access, proposed by cable companies will stifle growth. This is also vital to the democratic process. I strongly urge you to retain net neutrality in order to preserve growth and innovation within smaller start up companies. Money should not be the sole determinant in what policies are implemented. We are a Democracy, not a Plutocracy!
—Lawrance Jones, Tampa, FL

i would like the FCC to throw out its rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers, this is the ONLY WAY to protect real Net Neutrality.
—Blair Helldoerfer, dayton, OH

I wish it was as funny as Mr. Oliver presents it, but this will be a sell-out of epic proportions, one more nail in the coffin of public trust for our elected and appointed officials.
—Rafi Rafi Kushmir, Philadelphia, PA

Please let us keep the internet as we now have it !!! the corporations cannot own OUR country.
—mary ellen Aronson, monson, MA

protect the internet neutrality.
—Sharon Parker, topeka, KS

Internet access is tantamount to free speech itself. Do not put my free speech in jeopardy just to line telecoms pockets. There are some things that are more important than money.
—Dwight Tronson, Aurora, CO

Tell the FCC to throw out its rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers. This is the ONLY way to protect real Net Neutrality.
—Jennifer Applegate, LEBANON, KY

More of us get our news, library-style services, keep in contact with family and make a living via internet than can be measured. Getting online is already too slow and expensive. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Julia Nichols, Crossville, TN

Chairman Wheeler, What are you thinking? It is a blatant mistake to categorize usage of the Internet. What next? Cleaner water for certain customers? Inconsistent power for designated parts of the grid? How about a raffle for gas for heat on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday? Either your slip is showing (read that - obliged to influence) or you are slipping (read that - what are you thinking!?!)

—Brenda Thibault, San Antonio, TX

Rapid access to information should be free to all and not based on income.

—Tony Cowdrey, St. Petersburg, FL

It's called censorship!!!

—Nancy Matthews, Sedona, AZ

The internet should be free of regulation. Net neutrality should be preserved. No services or applications should be blocked.

—James P Moffatt, Salem, NH

The internet has become the primary medium of education and discourse in this century. It is as important as the public education system and public libraries were to previous generations and should be open to all without bias, preference, or limitation.

—Mary Demaso, Lexington, MA

The level playing field of content on the internet is extremely important to everyone. This should NEVER be changed and the FCC's stance on net neutrality is very concerning. DON'T CHANGE THIS! It will change the internet forever and change the way we get information. VERY BAD IDEA!!

—Deborah Perlmutter, Fair Lawn, NJ

Not only would this create yet another divide between the haves and have-nots, but it would also cripple new small businesses, lower income students, and libraries who provide public use computers whose funding is modest. It would also hurt lower income families and the elderly who have a personal computer to keep in touch with family. Please protect net neutrality by keeping out companies who'd create the two-tiered biased discriminatory delivery system...all to make a profit for themselves. Some things should be above profit, this is one of them. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Lori Oostendorp, Rockton, IL

In the name of free speech, in the name of equality, in the name of everything this nation stands for, please, please, please preserve Internet neutrality. It is inherently wrong that a level playing field be made deliberately unequal, unfair, that it be turned into a deck stacked to favor the rich. Why should people with money be favored in what they have to say over people without money? How very wrongheaded. How very wrong. We are supposed to be a democracy, not an oligarchy. This is a horrible idea foisted upon us by those very who would benefit unfairly. Only the rich — i.e., corporations, would be able to pay for "faster" access to customers. The American people will be shunted aside in favor of the already favored top tier rich. This should not be. Money is not the deciding factor and should never be. I should be free to equal access to my neighbor's tiny startup alongside all behemoth corporations. The Internet is the public sphere, the modern day equivalent of newspapers and books. Let all who come have an equal say on an equal footing. If Thomas Paine were here today, he would be the first to endorse free and equal access to the Internet. All his writings — Common Sense, The Age of Reason, The Rights of Man — promoted reason, free thinking and equality. Paine decried institutions and institutional thinking — the very thing that created this horrendous plan. He would be appalled at what the FCC is promoting. So am I. Do not, repeat, DO NOT give unfettered, better, faster access to certain entities, i.e., those who can pay. DO NOT give this unparalleled power to Internet Service Providers to decide for us what we can and cannot see, how quickly, how timely. This is an outrage and against everything the United States of America stands for. Do not do this.

—Bella Silverstein, Santa Clarita, CA

I am old enough to remember when we had anti-trust in this country. We still need a government that enforces it. You have no doubt seen the surveys that Americans hate and distrust Internet providers (Comcast etc) more than any group (after the industrial-military complex which Eisenhower warned us about, a warning we ignored, unfortunately). But you can stop the monopolization of the Internet, you can protect it for start-ups, you can resist the \$18million+ lobbying. PLEASE PRESERVE NET NEUTRALITY FOR AMERICA, FOR THE FUTURE, FOR WHAT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

—Ann Tubbs, San Francisco, CA

For innovation and job creation, we need net neutrality. IT will enable small companies to compete and flourish.

—Janet Bumpas, San Francisco, CA

Reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Laurel Holmstrom-Keyes, Cloverdale, CA

'Freedom of speech' must include ACCESS! Equality for all.

—Monica, Albuquerque, NM

The rules as proposed by the FCC should be scrapped. The internet service providers should be classified as common carriers. The internet now intersects with basic daily living and is as ubiquitous as electricity and should be regulated in a similar manner. How rich to these communications corporations need to be and how poor does the average American citizen need to get before policymakers listen?

—Dan Moen, Coralville, IA

Throw out your rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers. This is the ONLY way to protect real Net Neutrality.

—C Green, Bronx, NY

They. fourth estate is all but dead in this country. A free press is essential to a democracy. Net neutrality is the last vestige of free expression and exchange of ideas in this country. So one must conclude that the FCC is one of those dangers President Eisenhower warned us about, this nation will fall from within, it will never fall from forced beyond our border.

—Chris Thompson, Vancouver, WA

You must not allow internet carriers to provide fast lane internet connections to those willing to pay. Do not end net neutrality! This in the one area that should remain fair to all so that people have equal access to information. We get commercials shoved down our throats everywhere now as it is, so the corporations don't need any more assistance in influencing the population. Allow people to search the internet equally for information they seek without preferential treatment to corporations willing to pay.

—Vaga Hargadine, Brookfield, MO

Just because Tom Wheeler doesn't understand the internet in any way, shape or form doesn't mean we people are willing to give up the Net Neutrality FCC has been terrorizing us users about using ever since the inception and popularity of the Free Internet began. The telecom bust up of Ma Bell by Ronnie Reagan's masters was the beginning of the monopoly build up we now have. And they want more. With greedy people enough is never enough. For example, now we have cell phones that will not work if user is out of certain corridors, land line phones that are exorbitant in price, nasty dealings of nickel & dimeing customers constantly. Nothing works in telecommunications as it should: for the people as a utility. Television is layered as well, cable corps control the broadcasting of HBO, et al, and we who have DISH or DIRECT TV in rural areas have to pay exorbitant fees if we want to say, watch HBO/John Oliver's take of telecoms, nasty cable, and their puppets HBO, et al. Watching online is not the same as having to FREEDOM to watch HBO, et al, if I want to and in my living room. Somehow the entire USA has been ignoring this takeover of the airwaves by the 1%. Now these rich corporations want to own the Internet and make the same mess - in their favor. FCC, throw out Tom Wheeler's plan. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers. Protect Net Neutrality, for all of us and all time. Thank you.

—Judith Nappe, North Bonneville, WA

Don't take away the very reason we have the internet. To be on an open and fair network across the world and come together. Please stop being greedy and evil. Humanity is better than this. I still have hope.

—Elle Latham, Los Angeles, CA

No fast lanes! We already have lousy Internet service that is an embarrassment compared to other nations. Big ISPs like Verizon and Comcast have not demonstrated that they can be trusted to provide service without abusing their customers and behaving in monopolistic manners. It is time to reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Rick Robins, Grass Valley, CA

I believe it is unconscionable to allow certain companies to have a better connection than others merely based on how much they pay Internet Service Providers. There was a time when I was growing up that I could have said I don't need the internet and that would have been correct. My entire job is based around the proper functioning and speed of connections on the internet now. If Comcast decided to limit my ability to connect at a proper speed and work from home I could lose my livelihood and the ability to pay my bills. I also believe that this stifles innovation. It also stifles competition. It is competition that would give you the possibility to say I don't like Comcast's service I will try this other company. Unfortunately I can't because there is not other company to try in the area I am in. That statement doesn't directly apply to the issue but it will when there are maybe two companies that control most Americans ability to use the Internet.

—Philip Browning, Thornton, CO

We want one tier with equal freedom of speech for all, not the picking and choosing of winners and losers by Internet service providers.

—Lea Harlow, Shavano Park, TX

As a teacher in a poor school district, I consider Net Neutrality an essential element in the education of the under served and marginalized youth of America. Lacking a library, but having access to the internet on campus, our small middle school depends upon affordable, accessible internet which allows our students to do research and to use educational websites for math, English and history subjects. Discrimination online is the last thing these students can afford. Many depend upon internet access from home to complete homework assignments. Their parents are underemployed and need equal access. Please see that Net Neutrality remains a reality for the sake of our schools and our children who have come to depend upon it as it stands today. Do not let the ISP's create a two tiered system using the proposed new FCC rules. Robin A. Evans
Educations Specialist (special education teacher)

—Robin A Evans, Richmond, CA

I'm an electrical engineer and can tell you that the proposed changes to the current net neutrality will stifle innovation for yet unknown applications. Please make NO changes.

—William Alford, Cottdale, AL

I am for net neutrality because I am for supporting the interests of the American public first and above big business. Do your jobs and protect the American public.

—Amy Quartermain, Austin, TX

Stop the CORPORATIONS control of the NET. The next thing they will try to control will be our bodily function , like breathing or eating . Most all of AMERICA know what our government is a CORPORATE OWNED GOVERNMENT not for the people and this right here is just one of many things you have done to the American people. There will be a time in the American when WE THE PEOPLE (all the people) will say we have had enough and I pray one day our freedoms will return to us. Keep pushing BS like this and not changing other BS laws that when AMERICA trusted our government you passed all kinds of laws to benefit the corporations . I pray that AMERICA get's some MORALS , I know the only morals our corporate owned government knows is the LOVE OF MONEY..... Have a Blessed day Jina Roberson PS: If you are in any way a human being you will understand this , give AMERICA back to the people.

—Jina Roberson, Corsicana, TX

I STAND WITH JOHN OLIVER!

—Branden Knab, Holley, NY

to slow down the internet and adding a (fast lane) would slow down what already for us in the country would kill our internet. I am retired and so is my wife we use the internet (a lot) we communicate with friends relatives pay bills buy a good amount of products on the internet also, so buy letting a big corporation b (BUY) there speed and slow down or reduce the bandwidth of people like us you take away streaming video and down loading movies that we pay good money for. It just seems to me that this is playing favoritism to who puts the most money in your pocket. Being a public employee means you work for the public not against us . so in closing leave the internet free it's all that is left of freedom excluding (air) and only because you can't figyre out how to tax it Yet

—Charles Davis, Bemidji, MN

Instead of worrying about stuffing some extra money in your pocket DO WHAT IS RIGHT BY THE CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTRY!

—Aaron N. Honore', Columbia, SC

When I was born, this was the land of the free, where people were good, honest, and caring. It was where people cared about their country and each other and wanted what was best for the average people living in it. Today we have Republicans, owned and operated by the Koch Brothers and this land and the average people in it are being destroyed. For someone who lived in what it used to be and could be today----oh, if only, if only. I don't think it is a dream we can even dream today. How very, very sad.

—Sharon Lloyd, Sun City Center, FL

You have made us dependent and now you want us to fall asleep while you connect the big guys... WE WANT EQUALITY!

—Marcia Pauley, Poulsbo, WA

Isn't it obvious that internet providers are a utility? Where are the cables? in the UTILITY easement. Is that service available to anyone along the UTILITY lines? yes. IF IT QUACKS LIKE A DUCK....

—Carol Stooddy, Algonac, MI

I demand nothing less that real Net Neutrality. ISPs must not be allowed to create a two-tiered Internet where companies who pay more get special "fast lanes" for their data. I vehemently request that you reclassify ISPs as common carriers under Title II of the Communications Act

—Patti Greene, Mountain Lakes, NJ

Net Neutrality means that everyone is treated the same - just as the American Constitution wanted, and as all our democracies say they want. If some corporations are allowed to have a higher speed on the net, and some competitors of theirs are allotted lower speeds then the corporations will thrive - surely falling foul of regulations on fair trade and equality before the law. Also who says who can have fast speed and who slow speed - charities that cannot pay for fast speed will lose out, as will small companies - this will lead to gross inequalities between companies and other entities on the net, and will not contribute either to fair trade, good commerce or good citizenship. I foresee strife and misery coming from this and want desperately to avoid it.

—P Armstrong, Bangor,

The common good

—Brad Cavanaugh, Mason City, IA

How far down hill can we go before someone says enough? Losing net neutrality is like losing another freedom. We already have enough of that.

—Barry Fell, Huntington Station, NY

"I" want a say in my rights and choices!!

—Marcia Trella, Hamburg, NY

The internet is the largest collection of knowledge and information in human history. This data is precious, more valuable than any currency, and open access to this is the means by which we build a more benevolent, verdant, and more evolved global society. Appeasing short term corporate interests is at best short sighted and small minded, and at worst, a betrayal of humanity's search for knowledge and the desire to become a more mindful, responsible species. Do not get paid to keep us ignorant, but stand up for justice, for reason and stay on the right side of history.

—Rion Hutsell, Indianapolis, IN

The US created the internet we cannot become North Korea or any other country who limits access to the internet.

—Alex Charavell, Athens, OH

To allow service providers to discriminate with the content and speeds they provide to consumers is completely unacceptable. We don't allow any other utility providers the ability\authority to do so (i.e. Electric companies are not allowed to provide service preference based on what the end consumer is using the electricity to power, nor gas companies the power to do so, nor water companies to determine preferred statuses etc); why would we allow ISP's to do so? You, as the regulatory board and authority charged with oversight cannot responsibly determine that the abolition of Net Neutrality is in any way a good or positive thing for those you are supposed to protect and serve, the American consumer. To allow the ISP's to claim the advantages of Title 1 protections on one hand, and then the benefits of Title 2 protections on the other, while excluding themselves from those regulations they deem inconvenient or unsavory in either Title 1 or 2, is unabashedly disgraceful and utterly and totally unacceptable. Defend American liberties, defend justice, save the last ounce of credibility and confidence the American citizens may have in their Government actually being able to positively effect change, defend their interests, and represent their will. Do what is known to be right and good. Protect and enshrine Net Neutrality, and stem the tide, even if just this once, of Corporate buyouts of the American government. Please, represent WE THE PEOPLE, the citizens of the United States. Protect the Net!!!!!!

—Justin E Hout, Fort Smith, AR

Do not cave to the lobbyists. The right thing to do is not often the easy thing to do.

—Sean W, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

Please leave the Net alone. The FCC is in the wallet of the Internet service providers. We don't need tiers - we need net neutrality. BTW - you may want to remember that you're supposed to work FOR us, not against it.

—Janis Mooradian, East Providence, RI

A free society needs free access to the internet and free information. No one should "own" the internet!

—Mark Nobriga, Daly City, CA

Freedom of speech

—Steve Haworth, miamisburg, OH

Last bastion of freedom!

—Kathleen Thomas, New York, NY

Net neutrality is what has allowed big ideas to come into reality in our society over the last 15 years! Without it, most of the great things on the internet and elsewhere would not have happened and our economy would be a shamble. My business would not exist if I had had to pay extra (redundant) fees which really amount of double charging at best and extortion at worst, just so my website would load fast enough for people to actually see it without getting bored or tired of waiting. Get out of your bureaucratic box and check the reality on the street: there is no question we need true net neutrality with the internet regulated and protected like any other utility. There is no way you can conceive of the internet as not being a utility: it goes into almost everybody's home and they pay for the services to receive it.

—Christopher T Loch, Minneapolis, MN

The world will be a darker, more unequal, more divided, more corrupt without Net Neutrality. The internet is an incredible and beautiful phenomenon that reaches so many people on the same level. The equality that we experience from the internet now would be missed and the new plan would be sorely detrimental to individuals and society as a whole. Please, listen to the people, do something good for mankind. Preserve Net Neutrality.

—Megan Brown, Surbiton,

The United Nations passed a resolution back in 2012 which stated that internet access has, in the 21st century, become a basic human right. So, if the FCC wants protest, acts of civil disobedience, and rioting in the streets, go ahead and take away Net Neutrality and see what that gets you!

—Rev Paul J. Bern, Atlanta, GA

I use the internet every day. I do research for college papers and projects. I chat with my friends spread all over the country (and even farther). I play games and connect with other players. I also shop, watch YouTube and Netflix, listen to music on Pandora, and yes, I look at photos of cats. The internet should be an open, level playing field for everyone. It should not be at the whims of monopolistic companies who are allowed to provide the bare minimum of service and support for steep prices because they simply do not have to compete. Listen to the people. Listen to Google, to Amazon, to Facebook, to Netflix. The cable companies of America are already doing us wrong and stomping on American ideals of free markets and healthy, vigorous competition. Don't help them make it worse.

—Brienne Murphy, Coin, IA

True net neutrality is fundamental to today's civilization. Please stand up to corporate greed and classify ISPs as the common carriers they are.

—Bill Sorem, Minnetonka, MN

The internet was created for THE PEOPLE, not for the elite few. I don't care if the prices for different internet speeds are cheap...if there is a difference in access, then it's wrong. This medium grants information, entertainment, and connection to our global community. As an educator, I am well aware of the importance of the internet and its impact on education. I am also aware of the income gap that exists in our country. As a teacher who has taught in Low Social Economic Schools, I have witnessed the growing disparity of the lack of access to information. Now you're telling me that these students with already limited access to the internet may be completely turned away? This is wrong. How is our country ever going to remain a global power if we continue inhibit children with potential, to never live up to their ability? All children need access to information and in our modern age, the internet is one of their most vital resources. I beg you to re-think this idea of ending Net Neutrality and not allow others to fill their pockets at the expense of equality. Access to All!!!!

—Gabriel Tajonar, Adkins, TX

Imagine if Duke Energy said they would charge you more if you used anything but Sony electronics, because Sony had paid a cash sum to Duke. Oh, and you had no other choice but to use Duke energy. That's what's going to happen here, internet providers will receive cash payments from bigger sites and the smaller players who can't afford to pay will be slower or non applicable because the common consumer will not wait for digital information anymore and will go with the fastest answer. The internet was created to supply information equally to everyone, and should stay that way.

—Jeb, Greenville, SC

Don't destroy the Internet by turning it over to the profit-making corporations...!!

—Mark Heald, Pleasant Hill, TN

It is a public utility and shouldn't be offered for sale to get better transmission speeds!

—Gordon Kircher, Lakeland, MN

NN is important for our national security and fairness to all people.

—Kathrene Hewett, Norman, OK

Because the internet IS a public space. Privatizing it is immoral. If functions as a public space, we supplied the funding and excessive taxes to pay for the internet, whether directly or indirectly. This is a peoples' space, NOT A CORPORATE ONE!

—Stefanie Sellars, Simi Valley, CA

I don't want your tiered system. It's bad enough all these cable companies have taken our taxes in the form of government subsidies to get them to build a decent internet and not only NOT delivering on the commitment they made to get our money, but have stopped building altogether! And since they have promised a better, more extensive internet, it has gotten WORSE! But that is before this corrupt proposal to change the rules for the worse. Come on! Stop messing with us all, give us a break at least this one time. Have a heart!

—Ellen Hasselmann, Uncasville, CT

We need net neutrality!!!

—Paula Menyuk, Brookline, MA

This "Internet Slow Lane" thing is just stupid. The internet should be for everyone to use!

—Geo, Huntingdon,

Net neutrality is a basic guiding principle of the internet where data bandwidth is the reward for whoever best utilizes it in the service of its users the people. The people determine what is valuable and deserves the bandwidth not the content providers. This is net neutrality. This democratic process happens automatically if not undermined by internet service providers. If content providers are allowed to bypass the democratic bandwidth reward process by simply purchasing more bandwidth from internet service providers then innovation, competition, and the free exchange of ideas will suffer.

—David McGrath, Corpus Christi, TX

We should all have the right to Net Neutrality. Everyone is equal. Just because some companies want to make more money doesn't make them more important than the American people. The Internet is important for people looking for a job, to keep in touch with friends and family, to people who want to make our world a better place and no one should ever be able to put a price on that. If you allow these few companies to change the Internet, you will be stifling free speech and hurting people in many ways just for the greed of a few corporations that are already making big profits.

—Charlotte Sines, Colorado Springs, CO

Equal footing for all content providers is important to me as it gives the "little guys" a chance to be heard on the same stage as the big corporate sponsored guys.

—Eric B Clemenson, Clearwater, FL

Net Neutrality is important to me because it allows me to stay in touch easily with friends and family at a barely affordable cost. I fear that the net will become an unaffordable way to communicate. How can the air be seen as a commodity when it belongs to all of us? It's a bit like selling water at increasing cost instead of providing it responsibly to those who need water.

—Nancy Adams-Cogan, Iowa City, IA

It is important that net neutrality is preserved and kept out of the hands of greedy businessmen.

—Sean Kelleher, Limerick,

Please defend net neutrality. It is essential for the U.S. to maintain.

—Lissah Lorberbaum, Los Angeles, CA

ISP needs to be re-classified to common carrier because it uses all of the same infrastructure as common carriers. Privatising the net would be like privatising the armed forces... they serve everyone only some would be better served than others. Corporations already have most of us by the short hairs and the FCC is no exception. Only one thing is the difference: there are more of us (peopleL) than them and they are not people - they are legal entities with people serving them. The air waves (any kind; tv, radio, internet, broadband, shortwave) belong to the people.
—Sharon Levy, CHELMSFORD, MA

Cable companies are capitalizing on the fact that there is no competition. Comcast can lower prices on their programs while charging premiums for third party programs like Netflix. Given their consumer satisfaction rating and exorbitant prices with slower Internet service, Comcast will only make the Internet as we know it worse. It's concerning to me how much money they spent to lobby this instead of improve their network and services. That should have been a red flag. Please reclassify Internet service providers as a regulated utility.
—Ilya Kole, Wauconda, IL

Net Neutrality removes the equality that the internet requires in order to work. Without the ability for everything to be at equal speeds (the whole thing that allows the normal competition) the internet will fall apart. Throw out YOUR rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers.
—Darragh, Dublin,

The internet was born as a space with equal access to all and for all. I believe that if cable companies are allowed to created a two tier internet, the public will suffer higher fees eventually and innovation and competition will be adversely affected.
—Eric McNeil, Atlanta, GA

Don't cater to the money, power hungry giants like Comcast and Verizon. We need Net Neutrality....it does NOT need to be fixed! All this act would do is cost us consumers more hard-earned money, greatly reduce competition, reinforce the already ridiculous monopoly that cable companies enjoy and make the corporate giants even wealthier!
—Cathy Douglas, Yuma, AZ

Its important to me so that I can still communicate with my other friends around the world, so that I can still finish my schooling and become a medical student, and for countless other friends who's jobs revolve around a stable and fair internet connection.
—Forrest Anthony Owen, London,

Provide a fair service for everybody, not set up unfair profits for a very few (who pay you kickbacks?)
—David Rumsey, Basel,

Leave it alone!
—Michael Carmody, Saint Louis, MO

Too many times individual American Citizens and their rights and ability to enjoy new technological advances such as cellphone service, cable, and many others have been ignored by the politicians they elected in favor of making more money for corporations. We've seen it time and again with conglomerate take overs and mergers. Until now the internet, and equal access to it, has been the only place where there isn't obvious and unjust discrimination. Mr. Wheeler, what you propose is basically extortion. You'll allow internet service providers to decide which sites get more bandwidth, and that would obviously be decided by who can pay more for it. This automatically discriminates against start-ups, small independent individuals working from home computers, and anyone who wants to try and innovate and create better services that might threaten those big corporations who will be allowed to pay more for faster streaming online. This is unacceptable. You are a public servant, not a private employee of the companies seeking this change. DO NOT, and I repeat, DO NOT END NET NEUTRALITY. There is no legitimate reason for this change; it's fueled by corporate greed and fear of the underdog undercutting their profits. Be a true citizen, not a citizen of Citizen United, and stop forwarding this corporate takeover of bandwidth. For once stand up to the guys with the deep pockets and look out for us, the PEOPLE, not the corporations.
—Daniel Hauck, Port Charlotte, FL

Reclassify ISPs as common carriers. This is the ONLY way to protect Net Neutrality.

—Maria Rua, Paterson, NJ

An internet slower than Estonia's? No way will the greed-monsters give us a better internet, though they will demand more of our money. And hiring a dingo to watch our children, after we fire the babysitter is a perfect analogy for what is happening. Putting the former head lobbyist for the cable company dragons in charge of the governments's drive to shove us deeper into the clutches of power and greed is one of the paramount bonehead moves of our President. KEEP THE INTERNET NEUTRAL.

—Dale Matlock, Santa Cruz, CA

The only reason Internet companies want to destroy net neutrality is for profit. They don't care if "fast lane" services destroy democracy. This is called capitalism. I prefer democracy.

—Allen Kanner, Albany, CA

Keep the internet neutral!!!

—R Levenson, slt, CA

The commission must reject their proposed "net neutrality" response that turns a public utility over to Internet providers and begin to regulate the Internet as a utility, open to innovation and guaranteeing a level playing field for users and content providers. Turning this resource over to Internet providers marks a low point in American commerce and communications.

—Thomas Hester, Silver City, NM

If we do not have net neutrality, it will kill small businesses and start ups which are vital to economic recovery.

—Carole Stern, Niwot, CO

The citizens of this nation rely on government commissions to protect us from the ravages of monopolistic concentration of influence over the base functions of our lives. As things now stand, our lives and livelihoods are, in large part, dependent upon access to internet communication. Granting any kind of power to bestow or to withhold access at top speeds to the consumer, hands over a level of power to private industry that just begs for creative abuse. The job of the FCC is to regulate access to and distribution of communications infrastructure! Handing that authority over to third parties, who answer only to thier stockholders, would be an act counter to the commision charter and running uncomfortably close to the realm of negligence.

—Lewis Johnson, Magnolia, NJ

We need real net neutrality to stop the corporate lobbyist takeover of the FCC.

—Ben Rheault, Toronto, ON

The internet does NOT need fixing!! All eyes are on you.

—Jeannine Moore, Naalehu, HI

Because significant parts of the internet were developed with taxpayer funds, I consider the internet a public utility, owned in a small part by me. Large corporations who piggy-backed on the internet's development now collect benefits from the internet that far exceed anyone's tax investment. That should be sufficient. They are not entitled to any aspect of ownership - including the right to offer profit-making favors to some internet users over others. Period.

—Lois Chaffee, New York, NY

Access to information that is dependent upon funding!

—Elizabeth Brown, New York, NY

Dear FCC Chairman Wheeler and Members of Congress: The FCC has proposed rules that would break the open Internet. This proposed path would open the door to widespread discrimination online. It would give Internet service providers the green light to implement a two-tiered Internet, with a fast lane for those who can afford it and a dirt road for the rest of us. This would be a disaster for startups, nonprofits and everyday Internet users who cannot afford these unnecessary tolls. I urge the FCC to scrap these proposed rules and instead restore the principle of online nondiscrimination by reclassifying broadband as a telecommunications service.

—Iris M. Otero, Louisville, KY

Stop rigging the game for the big guys! For the first time in human history, let's let everyone have a fair playing field!

—Allyssa Kvenvold, Harvard, MA

In a democracy, equal access to information is crucial and should not be related to a persons income or ability to pay.

—Dennis Zyvoloski, Seattle, WA

This the same tactic that was used by the Nazi's when they took over all forms of information at that time.. This isn't any different except now it is happening in America and history is repeating itself. All this is, is "Strong Arm" tactics by big corporations trying to Pay off Government Officials for bogus laws that benefit them and restrict the consumer (The People) free access to all "Public" information.. How is this not Against the law and where is our so called Justice Department who is supposed to protect, "The People" from corruption such as this attempt on, Net Neutrality freedom?? Is the FCC a part of the problem or are they also being, "Paid Off"??

—Richard, San Luis Obispo, CA

Net Neutrality allows me to make the choice about what I seek out online -- not my service provider. Please preserve this very American value.

—Trisha Ping, Nashville, TN

I am a free person and will remain such despite international corporate attempts to enslave the population. People that cooperate with these international corporations and are United States Citizens are Traitors. Did I mention that I am a former U. S. Marine Viet Nam Combat Veteran. I have been willing to fight for my freedoms for a long time are you ready for this fight? Feeling froggy? Leap!

—Will Holder, Yulee, FL

Are you KIDDING me? This is OUTRAGEOUS! How can you call the US a capitalist country? We are a Corporatist country already and this would seal the deal. Support net neutrality or kiss freedom of thought goodbye.

—Celeste Botha, Seattle, WA

Internet Service Providers need to be classified as common carriers so that FCC can regulate these companies in the interests of the individual users. As an individual user, I have very little choice on what company to select - and there are very few providers to begin with.

—Michael Basileo, Fort Washington, MD

Our society is already suffering from an egregious income and wealth gap, brought about through government policies that reward the already wealthy and penalize those who are not. Without net neutrality, this gap will grow so much wider! Use your heads and keep us all equal in this arena!

—Amanda McNeill, Cortez, CO

I own a small business. I would hate to think that a large company could make their website's content more easy access just because they're paying comcast or some other ISP a fee. If we let the ISPs do this then we are going to further stunt the growth and interconnectivity of America. If these ISPs are such terrible companies now, how can we trust them with limiting bandwidth for certain sites? RECLASSIFY THE ISPS AS COMMON CARRIERS! Help American businesses, don't hinder them!!!

—Alexander K Adamitis, Houston, TX

Tom Wheeler's proposed plan would allow rampant discrimination online. You must act now to stop this. Protect America from the cable companies. Protect equal access to the Internet for all Americans.

—M, Houston, TX

media consolidation is bad, bad, bad. This is just another step in that direction..... don't do it.

—william glatfelter, Westborough, MA

It is essential for the entrepreneurial potential of America and other nations that we recognize slow lanes for what they are. We cannot stand idly by and allow our freedom to be so egregiously impinged upon. Our future, and the future of our economy, depends upon the freedom of the internet. It allows small start-ups to become big business based upon superior products and services developed by the little guy who had a better idea. True wealth and prosperity depend upon this spirit, one which can only be nurtured in the last haven of true entrepreneurs: the free and open internet, sans fast lanes.

—Chris Dungan, Edinburg, TX

How can this even be up for debate? This is WRONG.

—Meghan Caughlin, Omaha, NE

Big money has completely corrupted ALL news media in the U.S.--FACT!! We lost our Democracy because 5 Supreme Court Republican political operatives decided both McCutcheon and Citizens United which completely destroyed our Democracy because Democracy depends upon free and balanced news to the people. The open internet is but all that remains for people to even begin to get the real FACTS so pertinent to ALL Democracies!!

—Anna Becker, Hillsboro, OR

Net Neutrality=Democracy. Everyone is equal on the net as it should be.

—James Dawson, Davis, CA

A free and open internet protects freedom of speech. A free and open internet is the single greatest technology of our time, and control should not be at the mercy of corporations. A free and open internet stimulates ISP competition. A free and open internet helps prevent unfair pricing practices. A free and open internet promotes innovation. A free and open internet promotes the spread of ideas. A free and open internet drives entrepreneurship. Without an open internet, big corporations would have tight control over how we access websites and services, and that is not okay.

—Tracey Rosenlund, LARAMIE, WY

Dear FCC, Please reclassify the internet as a telecommunication service and create net neutrality. The internet is the last pure and fair form of communication and information gathering source for the common people. Don't make it the tool of government and big business.

—Joseph Nesbit, Cheney, WA

Net neutrality keeps the internet free and competitive. If you begin regulating content and usage, the age of free access to information and media will be corrupt. This freedom has shaped a generation and cannot be undone or redirected. You will be escalating a breach of freedom that will have severe negative consequences. We are not China nor North Korea, we are not "ruled" by our government, and we will stand for our rights to freedom and fair democracy.

—Evan E Brammer, Portland, OR

It is the last bastion of free and equal. Hence, our only hope for equilibrium in a faltering society.

—Patti Ford, Brookdale, CA

We average citizens get screwed all the time. The Internet was invented to allow everyone equal access to any and all available information and goods. If you decide to take away net neutrality, you're deciding to fix a non-existent problem. Now why would you do that? There can only be one reason: you are also in the pockets of big business lobbyists, and you're out to make sure we get screwed again. Don't think for one minute that we average citizens don't realize this. Now, how about doing the right thing for us average citizens for the first time in a long time.

—Gary Tkaczyk, Lunenburg, VT

Do NOT allow the cable and ISP corporations to determine the pricing on a discriminatory basis. ENSURE we have net neutrality. Do not put up barriers for start-ups and small business owners. Do your job...and represent the interests of the people - not the profiteering of the corporations.

—Constance Bevitt, Silver Spring, MD

Why is it so difficult to get our President to see what Net Neutrality actually means? We have had access to a neutral Web for many years, even with cable companies out there wanting to charge us a lot of money we don't have! Please help us to keep the neutral Web.

—Kathryn M. Smith, Little Rock, AR

WITHOUT NET NEUTRALITY, AT&T, COMCAST AND VERIZON WILL NATURALLY CREATE A TWO-TIERED INTERNET, WITH FAST LANES FOR THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD THE EXTRA FEES AND A SLOW ROAD FOR THE REST OF US. THESE COMPANIES WOULD HAVE THE POWER TO PICK WINNERS AND LOSERS ONLINE AND DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ONLINE CONTENT AND APPLICATIONS. AND NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. WHATEVER SITE DOESN'T SUPPORT THE LOONY POLITICS OF COMCAST AND DO THEIR BIDDING, FOR EXAMPLE, COULD BE SLOWED TO THE POINT OF EXTINCTION. THIS IS JUST WRONG-- JUST MORE OF THE GLUT OF MONOPOLISTIC CORPORATIONS STEALING FROM WE, THE PEOPLE.

—Todd Corbett, Umpqua, OR

As the only remaining ownership-free public mass dialogue left, and the best and biggest one the world has ever known, the Internet must remain as neutral as possible.

—Clare, Toronto,

Save net neutrality! Reclassify ISP as common carriers! I demand my internet is treated equally and fair! Strike down the FCC proposals which would allow a two-tier internet.

—Matthew Curtis, Onalaska, WI

Net Neutrality is the principle that Internet service providers and governments should treat all data on the Internet equally, not discriminating or charging deferentially by user, content, site, platform, application, type of attached equipment, and modes of communication. By allowing this, we loose any means of being equality and will be forced to pay for a service that we had for years but for more and get less in return. This will allow them to charge extortionate rates and forcefully remove the lower class from the internet and controlling a larger base of information distribution. Allowing this to happen will blind and deafen the lower class to be exploited more than it is now. This isn't right, please protect those who can't afford to protect themselves, being an american is about freedom equality not restricting equality behind a price tag.

—Joshua R. Lair, Berwyn, IL

Please leave the Internet alone. We do not need to allow companies to be able to pay for faster internet. Please leave the Internet Neutral. Please reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Alan K Sean, Prescott Valley, AZ

I am home-bound and without the internet, I would be lonely, ill-informed, and unable to shop for products I need. Furthermore, it links me with friends and family that would otherwise find it inconvenient to have long phone conversations. I also use it to research in my writing career.

—Emilie Winthrop, Carlsbad, CA

Freedom of speech is in danger if we allow the cable and phone companies to have control and power of the Internet ! Defend the people not the companies!

—Carmen Medina, Pembroke Pines, FL

The internet has become the essential format for the exchange of ideas. We need to maintain net neutrality if there is any balance of power.

—Ruth Goldberg, Rochester, NY

I run a small business that provides online sexual violence prevention training for college and military audiences. The loss of Net Neutrality could drive our costs of program delivery up, in effect, destroying our small business. This is not just about Netflix, it's about small business owners and entrepreneurs. Please advocate on behalf of net neutrality.

—Jeffrey Bucholtz, San Diego, CA

John Oliver said it best; "Hiring Tom Weir to head the FCC is like hiring a dingo to baby sit your child."

—Kevin J. Gosztanyi, Bethlehem, PA

don't let big cable companies run a monopoly of our internet. the US should be the number one nation in providing equal access to the internet no matter what you are using. The new head of the FCC is just another cable company supporter, don't let him be in charge or regulating his own personal interests.

—Kati Jackson, San Francisco, CA

Tom Wheeler as the FCC Chairman? Wow, there is no conflict of interest here. A guy who used to lobby for the telecommunications industry is now supposed to be regulating them to benefit all of us. If he allows ISP's to charge more for specific content, then he has sold the public out. I thought I was already paying my ISP for a specific level of speed, now Chairman Wheeler wants to allow my ISP to charge more for what I am watching? NO! MAKE ISP's COMMON CARRIERS.

—Norm Simpson, Monroe, WA

Dear FCC: Start over and classify ISPs as common carriers. Keeping the internet fast, neutral, and accessible is key to all aspects of society in the US today.

—Charli Sorenson, Central, WA

Hey, FCC, keep the internet fair for all of us. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers. We DO NOT WANT A TWO-TIERED SYSTEM! That is NOT FAIR! Leave the internet alone!! NO TWO-TIERED SYSTEM, DESPITE HOW MUCH MONEY THEY'VE POURED INTO OUR CONGRESS!

—Sandy Neese, Pegram, TN

Net Neutrality is the foundation of the Internet. To give in to the telcos and cable cos is to destroy the equality of the Internet and put all of the power in the hands of the few. It is truly granting a monopoly to those few companies. They then have the power to slow down the access of those they wish to deny access to and to speed up the access of their friends and allies. It is sheer lunacy and is truly the antithesis of democracy.

—Ray Jones, Beaverdam, VA

Net neutrality is important to me because 1) I'm poor and 2) I like and need to use the internet (all of it).

—Dr Robert Coates, Mason City, IA

Neutrality means that every single packet is treated the exact same. No fastlanes, no slowlanes. It's not up to the ISP to decide. They should do traffic shaping, video with a higher priority than text, but that should not be subject to legislation. The FCC should keep the playing field level.

—Lucas Choate, Phoenix, AZ

Don't let the fox guard the henhouse! Don't give in to the special interests! For once, stand up for the rest of us! This country isn't supposed to be about the "haves" and the "have-nots". We're all supposed to be equal, regardless of how much money we have. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers!

—Sherry Slocombe, Sun City West, AZ

We cannot allow corporations to dictate how people gain access to information. The internet is the easiest way for people to gain access to information and we should make sure that everyone has equal access to that information.

—Annie B, Bloomington, IN

Please reclassify broadband Internet access as a telecommunications service. In addition, remove Federal Communications Commission and Chairman Tom Wheeler. Do not make rules that allow these few large companies to control the internet and allow for discrimination on line.

—Jennifer LaPointe, bothell, WA

Keep NET Neutrality! This is all about big money to be made at the expense of the millions of people who use the Internet! Don't let them get away with it! Keep Net Neutrality!

—Marie Robbins, North Bend, OR

The ability to use email is no longer a luxury. It is a necessity and to be held hostage by a company we can't even get on the phone when a problem occurs, is ludicrous. Further, I've noticed that emails are delayed or downright ignored by the company already. What's it going to be like when they can do that as a matter of course or move mail through escalation of fees. It is way past time for allowing the ordinary folks who are your bread and butter to survive and to stop funding the super megaliths of the corporate world to the detriment of the average person!

—Jerry Spencer, marina del rey, CA

No internet slow lanes, please! Thank you.

—Mark M Giese, Racine, WI

keep the internet free for all to enjoy, The 1 percent have enough, no more ,

—Nancy Badura, CHADRON, NE

Net Neutrality is vital to my career as a freelance writer. I am a recent college graduate and I (and many of my friends) have not been able to find adequate, full time employment that pays a wage high enough to cover living expenses and my student loans. I work full time in a low level admin position by day and work as a freelance copy writer and editor by night. A free and equal internet is absolutely vital to my job and the jobs of all of my friends. We are succeeding at our version of the American dream under very slim odds and our success depends on a neutral net.

—Ansley Hayes, Athens, GA

Net neutrality allows as level a playing field as we can have for new business. It's hard enough these days to begin any new venture; so many regulations, forms, and laws to deal with. At least, with a free internet new ideas stand a fair chance of being adopted and small businesses can compete. It would be a terrible thing for our free market system if this too were skewed only toward the wealthy and successful.

—Melanie Tighe, Phoenix, AZ

support Equality!

—Terry Phelan, Albany, NY

don't reinforce the one percent oligopoly on media

—Robert and Dolores Scheelen, Medford, OR

Please, reclassify ISPs as common carriers. We need the cable industry and high speed Internet regulated the way we used to regulate the phone industry. Everyone should see the same Internet speeds, no matter what content is accessed.

—Andy Dral, Redwood City, CA

The best jobs I've ever had, where I've been treated most fairly, and been able to be the most productive were all small businesses. I don't want larger companies to gain even more unfair advantages over them than they already have.

—Al Wotring, pittsburgh, PA

Dear FCC, Will all due respect the proposed two tier bandwidth system is asinine. If we chop the internet up into two access rates there is no reason why other vested interests wouldn't do everything they could to make a third, fourth, or 1,000th tier. As a technology professional I make my living from the internet. I depend on its constant availability and level playing field. The startups I work on today need the same access as the mature players we all know and love (Google, Apple, etc). If you change the access rates you will make it more expensive for new players to emerge, which in turn will make it harder for the next wave of innovation to leapfrog the generation before. I know you probably can't see it in your crystal ball, I know you probably don't believe it to be true, but you need to kill this proposal and keep the internet as it is. To move forward with your ideas will send the best entrepreneurs and smartest innovators abroad to countries that respect the internet as it is, so they may incubate the next Facebook on a level playing field. If you kill net neutrality, you will irreparably harm this country. Instead of doing irreparable harm to the country, why not go the other direction and do some good instead; let's canonize two ideas: 1. Establish net neutrality as the rule of the land. 2. Reclassify ISP's as common carriers. Thank you, Ansel Taft

—Ansel Taft, La Mesa, CA

I am vehemently against a 2 tiered Internet!

—Chrystal Marshall, chicago, IL

Everyone who wishes to have their voice heard should have that chance, the internet provides that. Net Neutrality is a once in a lifetime opportunity for free speech to continue.

—George Edward Spillers, The Villages, FL

Destroy net neutrality and you destroy the U.S.A. You may think this is exaggerated, but history proves it. Take away freedom and opportunity from most and let only a privileged few have it, and a society cannot thrive and quickly collapses. When all wealth and power concentrates in the hands of a chosen few, that always is the sign of a collapsing civilization. If it is not already too late for us, it soon will be. The FCC chairman should resign in favor of someone who will support net neutrality.

—Elizabeth Haskell, NEVADA CITY, CA

We the public need an open and transparent forum, we not only need it but deserve it.

—Laurie Nichols, Blandford, MA

FCC: throw out its rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers. This is the ONLY way to protect real Net Neutrality!

—Robert R. Miller, Billings, MT

No two tiered system. A level, neutral internet is the key to freedom of information and the innovation that leads to.

—Robert Kinsell, Fort Davis, TX

With Internet and cable providers creating monopolies, it's more important than ever to allow the free-market to dictate what goes across the Internet, without stifling creativity, jobs, and commerce. More and more media is moving to streaming-based services, which need to be protected from the giant cable companies who wish to squash it.

—Dean Piotrowski, San Francisco, CA

As an educator who is also part of a technology startup, I believe a common speed for all content is essential to for both equity and innovation in our country. The internet is no longer a luxury. It is an essential part of how we all communicate and work. The internet is a utility - it's an extension of existing telecommunication infrastructure. If ISP's are allowed to self-regulate, we will have taken a dangerous step towards further concentrating power and stunting the growth of America.

—Arjun Venkataswamy, Chicago, IL

Net Neutrality is vital to maintaining a free and democratic internet. Your current proposed rule change is an affront to our freedom to communicate. It's inexplicable to me why you would even consider this rule change. The internet critically needs to be classified as a public utility. The huge corporate interests don't need another avenue to steal from Americans!

—Elyse Stewart, Salem, OR

Turkey

—Sharon Moss, St. Louis, MO

Sirs: The new proposed Internet rules are "out" and they are OUTRAGEOUS! How could you even CONSIDER deserting Net Neutrality. Please reclassify ISPs as COMMON CARRIERS before it is too late. How can you even CONSIDER new rules that so blatantly discriminate in favor of the super rich, giant, monopolizing ISPs and against the less well-funded smaller (but every bit as important) providers?

—Allen Delzell, Brevard, NC

I am not satisfied with the idea of having to pay more for faster internet. the proposed 2 tier system which charges companies for faster more reliable service would trickle down and affect me. I'm also not comfortable with the idea of having to pay extra for services (like video streaming) Which are now free. That would like charging for internet service by the click. Bullsh*t.

—Christian Brownlee, El Paso, TX

Destroying the open internet in America will just guarantee that tech companies create their startups in other countries that don't kowtow to the cable companies. You want to cripple the economy? Segregate the internet. Then tell us that both lanes will be "separate but equal". Eventually, when the millennials take control of the country, we'll have to fix this mess anyway. Telco lobbyists shouldn't be in charge of regulating telcos, and the internet shouldn't just be a playground for the rich. Restore Net Neutrality Now.

—Ryan White, Rochester, NY

Net neutrality is hugely important. I am strongly opposed to a tiered internet. We have already seen what tiers do to other services provided by major media companies. As a Comcast user who has been repeatedly frustrated by their utter lack of service, I cannot stress enough how little trust should be placed in them. The internet is a great equalizer, and the only individuals seeking to corrupt that equality are large media companies. Those companies should be classified as common carriers and their internet services should be classified as telecommunications services to preserve net neutrality.

—Bobby Debelak, Houston, TX

WHOSE COUNTRY IS THIS ANYWAY? I AM FED UP WITH BEING BULLIED BY SPECIAL INTERESTS. I THOUGHT THE FCC WAS TO HERE PROTECT US FROM THIS SORT OF HIGH-HANDED, ARROGANT, GREED DRIVEN CHICANERY. THIS IS AN OUTRAGE.

—Mary Oego, centennial, CO

A free Internet has been the most valuable contribution to human evolution in the last couple of centuries. Please toss out your proposed rules, and reclassify ISP's as common carriers.

—Eliana Uretsky, San Diego, CA

Net neutrality is important because it allows each individual to express their ideas and share their digital creations with each other without discrimination. I believe that you should throw out the proposed rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers. By compromising net neutrality you are essentially making the internet into a hierarchical system, giving preferential treatment to those with the most money. The appeal, the beauty, the magnificence of the internet is that everyone's data is treated equally. The data that I choose to produce online for others to share is an extension of myself and my ideas. By allowing people to pay to have preferential treatment you are opening yet another avenue for the rich and the exorbitantly wealthy to control the flow of information in the ways in which they see fit and simultaneously you devalue the personhood of the individuals with less money. Information and data are more than just simple ones and zeros; they represent and take the place of important ideas and ideas, no matter how large or small, should be considered with equal weight.

—Aaron Schultz, Essexville, MI

The Plutocrats already own our Congress, please don't sell yourselves too. Your job is to represent all US citizens, not just the rich ones. Uphold Net Neutrality!

—Diane Schmidtke, Tacoma, WA

The 'air waves' belong to US. We NEED net neutrality. Anything else is pure disaster. mb

—MaryLou Benigno, Tucson, AZ

A free and open internet is essential to the new way of doing business in the 21st century. The web is the phone line of the modern business world. Without an online presence you are doomed to fail. Innovation and new business, multi-billion dollar business and entirely new industries are created online. By stifling that innovation through additional costs for start-ups creates a hurdle that many could find impassible. Thereby depriving the US economy of the next Jeff Bezos, Marc Cuban or Mark Zuckerberg. If we wouldn't allow a phone or other utility company to charge a start up more than an existing market leader, or allow those same companies to use less effective cabling until a company ponied up more cash, then we cannot allow them to do that with web access. They claim the 'Net is not the same as phones, but those who innovate, transact business and create on line know that it is a basic utility of commerce and communication. Thanks for your time

—John Smith Jnr, Trumbull, CT

The net should not be controlled by big business and the rich.

—Jf F., H, OH

Dear FCC, The internet does not belong to you. Nor does it belong to the massive cable companies that are trying to destroy what the internet is about. The internet is not yours to control. I don't know why you think you have the right to change how the internet works. This is absolutely appalling. As if the government isn't over stepping by reading all e-mails, texts, cell phone calls... You decide the internet is yours to control? I think not. Stop trying to control everything. The internet belongs to the people, and you have no right to try to control it in any way, shape or form. Stop this now!

—William P Byrne, Pittsburgh, PA

I have access to only one internet service provider, Comcast, whose service was terrible when I used them for cable TV - service that bad enough that I paid more money for Direct TV, whose service is excellent. ISPs like Comcast and Verizon collaborate with one another so that we are provided only monopoly pricing and terrible quality for broadband services. Nothing is added to our service by allowing these mobster ISPs, who operate with no competition, to extort money from customers (internet users and providers of content). Monopoly-equivalent business practices allow ISPs to provide poorer service and infrastructure at increasing price while distorting the marketplace and eliminating honest competition. Creating a "slow lane" (anything other than net neutrality) is insane, or criminal. Please, instead, create competition in the ISP market where we can choose better service and lower price thus giving market incentive to improving data transfer speeds and infrastructure. This is obtained in most other countries through competition while maintaining a free internet. U.S. Telecommunication profits are already unbelievably high. They don't need to extort more money from users to provide fast speeds through optical fiber networks.

—Paul Dutky, Bremerton, WA

Net neutrality is of vital importance. The plan that Tom Wheeler is pushing as the new chairman of the FCC, would mean an end of net neutrality, and open the internet up to rampant discrimination by internet providers. Given the extremely limited competition of internet providing operators in most of the country, any changes to the rule that allows them to create a two tier internet access speed, to boost their profits by extorting providers to either pay up, or transmit at slow speeds, is clearly a bad idea for the end use consumer and any potential start up companies that wish to break into the market. Therefore I implore you to listen to the demands of the American public and throw out Tom Wheelers plan and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Dean Bacich, Wexford, PA

The principals of our country depend on a level playing field. I understand that isn't always the way life works...but to let companies create a competitive advantage for others, further separates the rich from the poor. I find this unacceptable that we are even having a discussion around maintaining a level playing field and not letting greed dictate an already monopolized business. Case in point, when I signed up with DirecTV, their only internet partner wasn't available in my area. This is 2014...the Internet should be available to everyone and by more than one company. Competition is what makes this country great and what keeps businesses from getting complacent. A fair market is the only way the internet continues to provide opportunities for startups and people to fulfill their dreams.

—Justin, Seattle, WA

Americans need to be able to connect, collaborate and compete at the same speeds as other countries. It's not like these behemoth companies are not making great profits as it is. Stop giving away our rights.

—Ivan Womboldt, Palm Springs, CA

It's time that we rein in the monopolistic power of Internet giants Comcast and Time Warner and re-designate them as common carriers. We need an Internet that works well for everyone, not just the people who can afford it. We also need to choose independent FCC leadership that is looking out for the US public, and not telecommunications lobbyists like FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler. If you destroy Net Neutrality with a change in current rules, I'm concerned that you'll face a hornet's nest of opposition - a tiny minority of wealthy stakeholders should not dictate freedom of equal access for the vast majority of Internet users.

—Bruce Wolcott, Seattle, WA

Net neutrality is important to me because I NEED to be kept up to date on what is happening around the world and here at home. I feel that it is UNFAIR to allow others to have a faster internet services. There should be a society where we are EQUAL - the American way, not a way of some rich people who could afford it in the first place.

—Alene Knox, Nampa, ID

Throw out your rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers. Why attack the person who does not deserve it? Because they don't have billions of dollars like the 1%? You call this democracy? This is the ONLY way to protect real Net Neutrality.

—Jacqueline Keys, New York, NY

Online discrimination is like ANY discrimination... an abomination... and just plain wrong!

—Patrick Carey, Toronto,

Think about it: keeping the Internet neutral is the most democratic way of managing it. Democratic...democracy. You'd think Net Neutrality would be a no-brainer for the "world's greatest democracy."

—Bob Rusk, Point Pleasant, NJ

Why would you disrupt a service that has worked for years. The internet providers do not need help making more money since they have a monopoly as it is. I do not want to have to pay a premium so I can enjoy the service I currently have.

—Rochelle Herrick, Meridian, ID

I support a level playing field for independent news media.

—William Snavelly, Lawrence, KS

What kind of world do you want to leave for future generations? What kind of legacy do you want to leave? Do you want to be known in the history books for the harm you did or for the good you did?

—Shane, Boulder, CO

This is outrageous. THE INTERNET IS fine, do not mess with a good thing. We need things to be accessible to all.

—Mathew Davydiuk, victoria,

All internet traffic should be treated the same way. The internet should be kept free & open with equal access to any website or application. There should be no blocking or slowing down traffic to any sites.

—Regina Holubiw, Burnsville, MN

Allowing cable companies to charge businesses for faster internet will stifle small business and innovation. Please listen to the people, not the lobbyists.

—Mark Pope, Culver City, CA

I own a small online business, which at this time is the only income I have. My business already has to fight for a spot with the search engines which sell space and list first those who are willing to pay. Its already tough enough to get by. It is time to classify the internet as a common carrier for all of us! It should be governed and regulated as any other common utility is. I cannot imagine why NOT! Is your purpose to continue with your "dog eat dog population control policy" that begs for the end of neutrality, or is it to assure that everyone has a fair and equal chance to improve their own financial status by opening their own ecommerce businesses to help fight their way out of the depression brought on by our government and the corporations that own and control it? You must make a stand...for or against the PEOPLE who make up our country. You must realize that the citizenry in the US are at their breaking point, and talk of an entirely new government is more than just over-dinner conversation. Can your corporate donors sustain you and your family when there is no one left who can afford their overpriced and low quality crap? Think about it long before you act, or you may find yourselves on a list of those to be replaced ASAP. What will you do when our current system goes belly up (as it will soon do regardless)? Will your corporate backers care about what happens to you? My greatest wish is that every politician who sold his soul to these corporate terrorists will ultimately suffer the same angst they served to everyone else. Who will raise a hand to save you then???

—J Fields, Jacksonville, FL

As citizens of this "wide world" the internet needs to remain as accessible to us as it is to those who feel they can "lord" above due to money, position etc.

—Roxanne Staley, Hanover Park, IL

Please protect net neutrality. The internet is one place where we all have an equal voice. Big money versus the little guys. David versus Goliath. It seems to be working just define now. PLEASE LEAVE IT THE WAY IT IS AND KEEP BIG \$\$\$ OUT OF THE MIX.

—Gayna Uransky, Garberville, CA

Tom Wheeler & the FCC: You say that your efforts are intended to preserve Net Neutrality, but this cannot be reconciled with the facts of your position. A "fast lane" and a "faster lane" does not preserve Net Neutrality, and Comcast's behavior in the lead up to these negotiations has been deceptive and uncompetitive. Do not move forward with your plans. Preserve the open internet!

—Ryan Gardner-Cook, Brooklyn, NY

It protects the real free market.

—Andrew Harbin, Cincinnati, OH

I steadfastly resist the creation of two-tiered Internet service because it offers no public benefit, and would squelch innovation. The Internet has been a very fortunate thing for our economy and to free speech because it is not divided into tiers and is open to everybody in the same way. In 2007, President Obama said one of the best things about the Internet "is that there is this incredible equality there" and charging "different rates to different websites" would destroy that principle. The proposal being set forward from Mr. Wheeler would do just that. The telcoms should give me the data bandwidth that I am paying for. The source of the data is none of their business. If telcoms sell a certain amount of bandwidth to their customers, it is none of telcoms business how that bandwidth made use of. (NetFlix, YouTube, etc.)

—Stephen, Fort Lee, NJ

The FCC must throw out its rules and reclassify ISPs as common carriers. This is the only way to protect real Net Neutrality. Isn't it enough you've let these large monopolies charge us so much for so little. Isn't it enough we already have a system that is all for the rich and so little for the poor!!! Do not add insult to injury. Do the right thing. Otherwise, I think we ought to look into your reason for being. If you're not there to protect the people of America, why do you exist? apparently, for the corporations....like everything else. Prove me wrong.

—Deb Walker, Concord, CA

For a safe internet for everyone!

—OniBee, Athens,

It is essential to democracy in this country as promoting freedom of speech and access to information that is equal with other citizens. Net Neutrality does not promote income inequality but subverting it or doing away with it does create greater income inequality as it creates second class citizens based on wealth and access to the net its information and speech. Sincerely Jack Ingersoll

—Jack Ingersoll, Viola, WI

The internet has become an essential means of communication, akin to and supplanting the telephone as the dominant means of communication. Don't abandon net neutrality and cripple this means of communication.

—Douglas S Kurtz, Las Cruces, NM

The internet used to be the last bastion of free speech, since then it has been invaded by governmental and corporate forces determined to undermine and silence the voices of the public. The internet has changed, in recent years, from a bastion to a battleground of free speech and free expression. The battle will never end if the government attempts to impose its will on the public, and perhaps that is why they are instead trying to enable broadband corporations that very same ability. I am not trying to protect Net Neutrality as it exists today, in fact I believe the internet has come so far from that neutrality that we will never see such freedom again. No, it is this specific proposal that I fear will have consequences that fall far outside what the FCC expects. With the introduction of fast and slow lanes, rather than profiting on internet companies and subscribers, I predict a mass exodus from the traditional internet to a system of networks that would be impossible to restrict. Much like the war on drugs has only plunged drugs into a globalized black market, and the prohibition of the 1920s that catalyzed these organizations dealing in illicit goods, this proposal will only succeed in turning more hardworking and intelligent citizens into criminals in the eyes of the law.

—Michael Nation, Beaverton, OR

The Internet is a crucial driver of free speech, innovation, education, economic growth, creativity and so much more, and is currently a truly democratic place. We need real Net Neutrality rules that protect Internet users from corporate abuse to keep the internet a truly democratic place.

—Rebecca Klemme Eliceiri, St. Louis, MO

Haven't we had enough of greed in this country? Stop big business from taking over the last vestige of freedom in the USA!

—Laurie Sherer-Weinsier, Marietta, GA

HERE'S WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO ME: FAIRNESS. JUSTICE. EQUALITY. PROTECTING DEMOCRACY. FREEDOM OF SPEECH. CONSCIENCE. PREVENTING BILLIONAIRE TAKEOVER OF PUBLIC UTILITIES. SEEING YOU DO YOUR JOB TO PROTECT THE INTERNET FROM MONOPOLIES. ARE THESE THINGS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

—Steve Drucker, Sherrars, IL

The Internet should be available to all individuals whether rich or poor, etc. and not be subject to discrimination. Thank you!

—Mary Margaret Switlik, Wichita, KS

Tom Wheeler and others at the FCC: I don't believe two-tiered Internet will provide equal opportunity for us who have less money than the corporate companies. In my experience with Comcast, they can't keep their word for speeds they say they'll provide now. But they can get away with it because they monopolize the market in certain areas. I have no reason to believe that they'll support net neutrality. Get rid of these new rules, and instead, reclassify ISPs as common carriers. This is the only way to protect real Net Neutrality.

—Jason North, Marion, IN

I am completely opposed to any laws or regulations that limit net neutrality. I believe the FCC plan by Tom Wheeler will end net neutrality. I will not vote for any politician that supports it.

—Regan Murphy, San Antonio, TX

As a small graphic design business owner, it is detrimental to my business and my life, to keep net neutrality. Keep the internet free!

—Ingrid Amundson, Seattle, WA

I can not afford to pay people like AT&T for the same product. They should be common carriers along with Comcast and Verizon. They need to have the laws apply to them even if they have more money.

—Austin, Kenner, LA

There is no way that Comcast and Time Warner should be given further power over the users of the internet. I support net neutrality and free access for all to the internet, like they have in Estonia, where internet access is enshrined in their constitution as a human right! Comcast is by far the worst company I have ever dealt with. Given more clout, they will harm more people. How can the US survive as a democracy if so many people who support net neutrality are overruled by the lobbyist class? Chairman Wheeler, we are watching. Don't crush any last bit of hope we have in our country's government!

—Ann Krull, Ft Myers, FL

If we give them an inch they will take a foot. If we give them a foot they will take a yard. If we give them a yard they will take a mile. If we don't stop corporations from taking one freedom what is to stop them from taking every freedom one by one. We need to put our foot down and protect the freedom and neutrality of the internet. Your job is to protect the internet, not sell it to the highest bidder.

—Nicholas Childers, Gastonia, NC

The Internet is to business today what public highways were in the recent past. Allowing ISP;s to charge more to bigger companies will throttle the ability of smaller and start up companies to compete in the market place.

—Christina Olivier, Wayland, MI

You should be preserving net neutrality, not harming it for just money sake. Further what's down the line regulating what information people get? Internet is a critical component for a free and open society where in every one have equal opportunity.

—Nitesh, Franklin Park, NJ

Because FUCK VERIZON.

—Matthew Hill, Bayonne, NJ

Preserve Net Neutrality! Reclassify ISPs as common carriers and keep the internet equal for all!

—Paul Wannamaker, Glendora, CA

I believe strongly in a free internet without any interference from anyone. Do not impose a two-tier system. Leave the net alone as it is and tell companies like AT&T, Comcast and Verizon they have to play by the same level field like everyone else!

—James K Chambliss, Destin, FL

Do you want your children to remember you for destroying the Internet? Is that really the legacy you want to leave them? Don't fuck up their future. You can still make the right decision here. Do it for them. Declare ISPs to be common carriers. Eliminate the mob rule of the telecoms. Speak truth to power. You CAN do the right thing!

—Stephen Jeremy Torrence, Austin, TX

FCC ought to protect the rights of the consumer. Cable companies' records reflect their disregard for fairness.

—Emil R Espinosa, VENICE, FL

Please support Net Neutrality and make it THE LAW!!! Thank you.

—Dennis Jackson, Norco, CA

The Internet should be a public utility because it helps people get the truth and it should not be controlled by the government or business men. They will make it unaffordable and inaccessible. This cannot and should not happen ever.

—Brent Davis, Kingsport, TN

Net Neutrality is innovation. Innovation is the money of tomorrow. Sacrifice net neutrality and you are putting the future economy at risk.

—Eric Nieudan, Dublin,

Although our democracy can already be more accurately described as an oligarchy, Net Neutrality is at least one step in breaking that cycle and returning the basic tenets of true democracy - power in the hands of the people, choice, freedom, and the freedom to actually choose - back where it belongs, and not in the hands of big business.

—Jeremy Martin, Los Angeles, CA

One of the benefits of the Internet is that it allows for any amount of information from any category to be shared to any corner of the earth. Restricting this information would result in the restricting of sharing knowledge, which inhibits users' education. We can see a similar limitation of information in countries such as China, Russia, and North Korea. This limiting of information, and thus education, would limit the power of the American people with concerns of autonomy. The limit of education and autonomy would restrict freedoms that should not only be available to Americans, but additionally to nations across the globe and their citizens. One of the issues with owning the internet and limiting the transaction of information with eliminating Net Neutrality is that the Internet is not something to be owned by a corporation. The Internet is a system owned by the people, by its users. By separating the Internet into a system dictated by wealth, this creates inequality and limits knowledge to the users' wealth, a twisted and unjust limitation of education and constriction of freedom. There have been other opportunities in history in which our country's population has been denied access to the equal, unrestricted distribution of a benefit. One example is electricity. Nikola Tesla had dreamed of making electricity free through his system of alternating currents, yet his invention was exploited and electricity is now a benefit only to those who can afford it. Frankly, I believe our country is afraid of something--a resource--they cannot control, which causes the fear of the inability to control its people. ISPs need to be reclassified as common carriers to prevent the ownership of the Internet and restriction of its capabilities to its users. Preventive measures need to be taken to combat the restriction of the Internet at all costs.

—Cam Best, Elmhurst, IL

I oppose Chairman Tom Wheeler's plans to dismantle the free and open internet by granting enormous corporations the latitude to freely engage in anti-competitive, discriminatory practices at the expense of the citizenry.

—Adam Stone, Woodbury, MN

Access to high speed internet is necessary in our new tech world. For all individuals and all small businesses. Competition needs to be fair. There is one choice of providers in some areas. The providers have no incentive to provide the best and fastest internet. Which is quite evident in the US Internet speeds compared to other countries.

—Amanda Haugen, Chicago, IL

Reclassify ISPs as common carriers and protect net neutrality!!!

—Raheel Majid, Culver City, CA

Why fix something that is not broken. So I hear it's for the public benefit because we would get faster downloads. No, it's not in our best interest and it just shows how an independent govt. agency is now owned by the cable industry....

—Brian Goins, Bend, OR

Everywhere we turn today, Big Business and Political Lobbies run everything, the American Public gets very little. Now You want to end Net Neutrality and give pricing control of the Internet to Comcast, Verizon, Dish Network and Century Link instead of allowing a FAIR, PROPERLY REGULATED Internet to thrive. PROVE that just because you used to work for the cable companies, you can still work for the public good. THE INTERNET IS A PUBLIC UTILITY. REGULATE IT LIKE ONE.

—Stephen M. Douglas, Magna, UT

Net neutrality is essential to maintaining an unbiased free exchange of information on the internet. Once ISPs are able to control what content gets viewed at what speed, it will create a class system of content based upon how much money and leverage a company can display to get preferential treatment. It will only further separate what people in this country can influence by their voice and essentially put it in the hands of disconnected politicians and their special interest groups. It puts the telecom companies as the gatekeepers and deciders of what information we can see instead of the consumer. Frankly, the fact that these revisions are even being considered as viable options is absolutely ridiculous. I am appalled at the actions that this commission has taken in the name of the consumer. This is yet another example of how the government is no longer looking out for the interests of its citizens, consumers, voters, and answering solely to the corporations and billionaires that fund their campaigns and careers.

—James Davis, Lexington, KY

It is immoral for corporate law to be extended to usurpation of the rights of municipalities and states to create common carrier ISP.

—Meg Kidd, Keene, NH

Net Neutrality is extremely important to me as a teacher, an artist and a world-citizen. It is important to anybody who uses the internet. In this information age, no one should be more privileged to information than another person. That is what would happen if non-subscribers to a particular service had information slowed down. It would allow blatant discrimination. Use common sense: Look who's pushing against Net Neutrality. Free access to information makes us able to function more productively, creatively and daringly. Keep Net Neutrality!

—Judith Jasinski, Chattanooga, TN

By allowing the cable companies to put in a 'fast lane' and letting the giant telecoms charge other companies a fee to connect to their patrons, you will be destroying a competition and the internet's open and free market. This move will only hurt consumers and you should be ashamed for even considering it.

—David Alan Graham, Colorado Springs, CO

It means that any content provider can have access to the entire worldwide internet without paying a corporate entity a tax to reach the audience.

—David Lawson, Phoenixville, PA

It's not broken. Make a rule that every market MUST have at least three carriers. That will bring improved speed.

—Steven Mull, Geneva, NY